(2) is it a fact that the Specialists in the Chemistry, Mycology and Entomology are thrown out of their own fields for want of well and properly fitted laboratories;

(3) if the answer is in the affirmative (1) whether the Government contemplate to provide laboratories for the department (ii) if the answer to (i) is in the affirmative, when?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—(1) The matter was under correspondence. Steps are being taken to provide a laboratory.

(2) No. Scientific work is not neglected though adequate facilities for research are wanting.

(3) In view of the answer to (1) above no reply is necessary.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—The provision for the building is in the budget. How long was it under correspondence? May I know when the correspondence first began and with whom?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The matter has been under the consideration of the Government for some time.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—The question of constructing a Laboratory and equipping it was under consideration of the Government for some time. Am I to understand that the correspondence was between the Government and yourself?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Yes.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—How long did it take place?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Seven or eight years.

The Cochin Hindu Religious Institutions Amendment Bill.

13. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—(a) whether a Bill by the name of the 'Cochin Hindu Religious Institutions Amendment Bill' was submitted for Diwan's sanction in 1101 by the Member for Land-holders;

(b) what was the reply given by the Diwan on 18th August 1926 for the above request for sanction;

(c) (1) was there any fresh letter on 11th Chingam 1102 about this matter;

(2) if so, what was the letter;

(3) why was sanction ultimately refused?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—(a) Yes.

(b) Government do not propose to publish the correspondence. (Vide answer to question No. 8 of the legislative session of 1103).

(c) (1) Yes.

(2) and (3) Vide answer to (b).

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Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know the reason why the Government do not propose to publish the correspondence?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Government do not think it necessary. A similar question has been answered before.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Why?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Because the Government did not think it necessary.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Any special reason for that?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—That is all what I can say.

Thanikkudam Scheme.

14. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state at what stage the Thanikkudam scheme now stands?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Detailed investigation by a survey party under the Special Assistant Engineer for irrigation is now going on.

The site of the dam has been surveyed and levelled and borings to rock have been nearly completed. The full lake level contour is being surveyed and is about half finished.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—When was this new investigation begun?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—I cannot give you the exact date.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Probable date?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—About 8 months ago.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—May I know why no special allotment is made in the budget of this year for investigation?

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Is it allotment for the investigation or allotment for the scheme that you mean?

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—For the scheme.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Investigation is not mature enough to say what we propose to do or anything of the sort. Investigation is not mature enough for an allotment.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—In previous years, there were also allotments for the scheme.

Rao Bahadur Mr. John Kuriyan.—Probably for investigation, I think, not for carrying out a cut-and-dry scheme. Investigation is not mature enough to put before the Government a cut-and-dry scheme.

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